

Edited by Maria Stribbling

**“As soon as wrongful thoughts come to your heart, dash them against Christ and disclose them to your spiritual father”**  
( St Benedict )



## Tips for the weekend - 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> January

The SVP in Crawley are very appreciative of the donations of non-perishable food.

They are currently supporting 34 families in Crawley.

The items that they are shortest of are pasta, pasta sauces, tinned tomatoes, tinned tuna and toiletries. Donations can be left in the coloured buckets or at St Benedict's.

Thank you

(provided by Christina Fitzsimons)

*Happy New Year! We wish you all the very best for 2018.*

This weekend we celebrate the World Day of Migrants and Refugees. This cause is one which is very close to the heart of Pope Francis. He has written and spoken about it frequently ever since his visit to the Italian island of Lampedusa, where he celebrated mass, in July 2013, for some of the many people who have arrived there by boat from the north African coast, seeking asylum and a more human way of life. Pope Francis also welcomed several families from Syria into the Vatican after his visit to that country. (You may remember that here at Worth we have received one of the “Lampedusa crosses” – a series of crosses made from the wood of one of the many small boats which were wrecked off the coast while bringing immigrants to Europe.)

In his message today Pope Francis reminds us that hospitality for the stranger is at the heart of our spiritual tradition : *You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt (Leviticus 19:34)*. Alluding also to the gospel, he continues : *Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age (Matthew 25:35-43)*. He asks us to show them solidarity, *which must be concretely expressed at every stage of the migratory experience – from departure through journey to arrival and return.*

He states that legal means must be offered to those who need to leave their homeland. In particular he says that *collective and arbitrary expulsions of migrants and refugees are not suitable solutions, particularly where people are returned to countries which cannot guarantee respect for human dignity and fundamental rights*; and he adds, *For the sake of the fundamental dignity of every human person, we must strive to find alternative solutions to detention for those who enter a country without authorisation*. When migrants receive a sincere welcome and are given training and opportunities to work they become not a burden nor a drain on resources but a source of rich blessings to their host communities. *When duly recognised and valued, the potential and skills of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees are a true resource for the communities that welcome them. This is why I hope that, in countries of arrival, migrants may be offered freedom of movement, work opportunities, and access to means of communication, out of respect for their dignity.*

All these aspirations present challenges for our own society and government. Please do all you can to help form public opinion in a positive and Christian manner, and please pray for those who come to our country asking for our protection and help.

(The complete document is available on the parish website.)

**Next Weekend:** We have a second collection for Pax Christi, the Catholic organisation which promotes peace.

**Anniversaries – Please pray for the souls of -** Lilian Cottrell, Jimmy Law, Margaret Harrison, Leo Leroux, Nazarine Chaplin, Albert (Davy) Davis, Norman Print, Louise Dobson, Tim McShane, Joan Leslie, Hannah Philipps,

Canon David Donnelly, Althea Davis, Joseph Clarke.

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.**

### **Prayers**

Please pray for the family and for the soul of Mrs Elizabeth Figg who sadly passed on 4<sup>th</sup> January. Her funeral will take place at St John's Catholic Church, Springfield Road, Horsham at 10am on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January. All are welcome.

Please pray for the family and for the soul of Mary Needham who sadly passed on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January. Her funeral will take place at St Bernard's Church, Vicarage Road, Lingfield at 11am on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January. All are welcome.

Please pray for "Tigs" Wheeler, who is currently very poorly in hospital

## **PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS**

### *Special Events for your Calendar*

**RISE Theatre group performance:** 13<sup>th</sup> January, the "RISE Theatre" will give a performance of their highly acclaimed play "Romero". This will take place in the PAC at 7pm. There will be refreshments beforehand and the play will last about 1 hour. Cost for tickets is £10 per adult and £5 for children. This event can be paid at the door on the evening.

**Next Parish Walk:** Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January after Mass. Happy New Year to you all! Trish and I are looking forward to seeing several of you on the 14<sup>th</sup> for the walk and lunch from The Victory Inn in Staplefield. It is a traditional country pub with a good menu.

Do let us know (if you haven't already) if you would like to join us as we need accurate numbers for the pub. Staplefield is quite close to Worth so we'll aim to start walking at 11.15 am. The walk is approximately 4 1/2 miles and on easy terrain but it could be muddy in parts if this rainy weather keeps up.

I am not back to walking yet but I'll be there and will sit in the pub and await your return! Anyone else who wants to please come along and keep me company. The pub opens at 12 noon. We hope to sit down for lunch at 1.30 pm. Christina x. Contact details for those interested –

Trisha Mobile: 07941 865002, [trishiasol@aol.com](mailto:trishiasol@aol.com), Christina Mobile: 07721 010577, [cfitzs3287@aol.com](mailto:cfitzs3287@aol.com)

### **PEG EVENT 2018**



**Saturday 27 January 2018**

Our great New Year event!

Luxury coach to Greenwich to explore the Cutty Sark, Queen's House and Maritime Museum, the famous Greenwich indoor market,

wonderful street food, guided tour of almshouses and more! Tickets £29

Contact Sara Barclay-Hudson (01444 461236) [sbh0369@vahoo.com](mailto:sbh0369@vahoo.com)

**Let's make 2018 the year to End Hunger in the UK:** Coping with the school holidays pushes many families into food poverty and insecurity. While many children from low-income families are entitled to free school meals during term time, there is currently no such provision during holidays. A recent report by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Hunger found that as many as three million children faced the risk of food insecurity this summer.

In Wales, the Assembly Government has launched a national 'Food and Fun' programme to address holiday hunger. The Westminster government needs to follow suit, and take responsibility for ensuring that children have access to good food on the 170 days a year when they are not in school.

A "Holiday Food Provision Bill" has its first reading in Parliament on 19<sup>th</sup> January. We need as many MP's to support as possible. Please ask your MP to help make sure children have good food 365 days a year. Please see the link on our website for an easy to fill form.

## 18th January – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**Christian Unity Celebration:** On Sunday, 21st January, at 3pm. There will be a celebration in the Abbey church, followed by refreshments in the Narthex. Everyone is welcome, all the Churches in the local villages. The team from Crawley Down will offer “messy church” in the Unity Room, (see below) for any child who would like this.



### **Inter-church Messy Church Special for the week of Christian Unity.**

As mentioned above, in the Unity Room, 3.00 - 5.00 pm 21<sup>st</sup> January  
Crafts, songs and Bible story for the whole family.  
We will join the adult congregation for the end of their service in the abbey church  
and for a shared tea towards the end of the time.  
*Children must bring an adult with them.*

**Mass and Eucharist Healing Service:** There will be a healing service this Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January between 2pm-5pm in the Abbey Church. All are welcome.

**DABCEC BOOKSHOP:** Please be advised that as of 21<sup>st</sup> December, the Dabcec bookshop has ceased trading to the general public. We apologise for any inconvenience

**Viviers Retreat, France:** October 2018. ‘Retreats beyond Dover’ are organising a retreat called ‘*Encountering Our Muslim Neighbours*’ at the Maison Diocésaine, Viviers in the Ardèche from the 13<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> October 2018. The input will be given by Fr Martin from Worth. The theme is very topical. For more information please refer to [www.retreats-beyonddover.com](http://www.retreats-beyonddover.com).

## OTHER EVENTS

**Evenings of Reflection for Confirmation candidates:** Bishop Richard will once again be hosting a series of Evenings of Reflection for Confirmation candidates around the Diocese. The evenings centre on an experience of Lectio Divina, led by Bishop Richard, and have proved extremely popular in 2016 and 2017 with some great feedback being received. In fact, a stunning ninety percent of young people who returned evaluations last year, indicated that the evenings were something they would recommend to somebody else! All evenings run from 7pm to 9pm and available dates are: Thursday Jan 18th, Horsham, Saturday Feb 3rd, Womersley (50 places left), Thursday Feb 8th, Epsom (30 places left), Thursday Feb 22nd, Worthing, Saturday Mar 10th, Bexhill. Booking is essential as space is limited. To book your group in, just send Jack Regan an Email- [Jack.Regan@dabnet.org](mailto:Jack.Regan@dabnet.org)

**ENCOUNTER EVENING (FOR 15-30s):** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January, with Fr Nick Crowe. The next ENCOUNTER evening in Crawley will be at St Wilfrid’s (RH11 8PG) on Friday 19<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm. We are delighted to announce that our speaker will be Dominican Friar, Father Nick Crowe. ENCOUNTER evenings are open to anyone aged 15-30, they’re totally free, and anyone is welcome. For more information, search ‘ENCOUNTER Crawley’ on Facebook.

**Crawley Interfaith Network:** Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January from 7pm-9pm. “Who is Baha’u’llah?” Simon Ward, a Bahai since 2001, former metropolitan police inspector (Served: Uniform, CID, counter terrorism), Volunteer NHS Chaplain. Talk followed by a Q&A session. All welcome. Free admission. Refreshments. Venue: Longley Room, The Orchard, 1-2 Gleneagles Court, Brighton Road, Crawley, RH10 6AD. For further details please contact: Iyad Daoud, email: [iyadhdaoud@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:iyadhdaoud@yahoo.co.uk) Tel: 01293 883372

**Annual Justice & Peace Assembly:** Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January. “Hope Overcoming Fear”. The church in the modern world. Speakers Jack Valero – co founder of Catholic Voices and Dr Anthony Towey of St Mary’s University. To book, contact Ruth Gerun on 01293 651164 (see our noticeboard). **Please bring your own lunch, however, tea and coffee will be available throughout the day.**

**Lunch for Homeless People:** Sunday 28 January (11.30am start). Please note we shall serve the normal lunch on Sunday 28 January at the Friary. Your help and support on the day would be very much appreciated. **Do please let me know if you are able to come along.** [ashel@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ashel@hotmail.co.uk).

**World Meeting of Families:** Bishop Richard invites families to join him on a pilgrimage to Dublin for the World meeting of speakers will lead sessions for adults and there are age appropriate activities for children and young people. This is followed by a concert style “Festival of Families” on the Saturday and the event concludes with Sunday Mass concelebrated by Pope Francis. For further details please contact: [wmof2018@dabnet.org](mailto:wmof2018@dabnet.org). Put World Meeting of Families in your diary and start planning to join us in Dublin, Ireland, from 21 to 26 August 2018. Come on your own, in a group or with your family!

## REGULAR EVENTS IN THE PARISH

**Mass Times** - Saturday: 9.00 am (Concelebrated) and 5.00 pm (First Mass of Sunday),  
Sunday: 9.30 am, Daily Mass: 8.00 am and 5.30 pm (Concelebrated), Holy Days of Obligation: Vigil Mass: 7.30 pm;  
Feast Day: 8.00 am and 5.30 pm

**Adoration** - Friday evenings 7.00- 8.00pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Reflection, music and silence.  
Sunday Adoration – In St Dunstan’s Chapel, West Hoathly, every Sunday from 5pm-7pm to support the parish evangelisation programme. Please feel free to come for as long as you wish.

**Confessions (Sacrament of Reconciliation)** - Sundays 9.10-9.30am before Mass.

**Marian Prayer Group** - 2nd/4th Monday, 7.30pm, Lady Chapel.

**Prayers for Healing** – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7.15pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, a mass with prayers for healing.

**Lectio Divina** - Tuesdays 8.20pm, for 30 mins, Parlour 3 (entry from the Narthex) then Compline.

**Sunday prayers for Healing** - Once a month, there is a half hour service of prayers for healing in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, after 0930 Sunday mass. All Welcome. The next dates are 4<sup>th</sup> Feb and 4<sup>th</sup> March.

**Christian Meditation Group** - Blessed Sacrament Chapel 7.45pm for 8pm start to 8.45pm followed by Compline. Next dates will be 31<sup>st</sup> January, 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February, 14<sup>th</sup> March, Contact Gabrielle 01342 326118/Caterina 01243 554001.

**Vigil for Vocations** - (1st Friday) 9.00pm to midnight in the Abbey Church. Next date 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

**Children’s Mass** - 1st Saturday of each month at 5pm. Next date 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

**Bereavement Support** - Marian & Clare are available to meet you either at St Benedict’s or to visit you at home. Contact the team via the Parish Office or email - [clare.harper@hotmail.com](mailto:clare.harper@hotmail.com) or [marian.imhasly@gmail.com](mailto:marian.imhasly@gmail.com).

**Mothers Prayer Group** - in Balcombe every Tuesday 12 noon. Call Marie 07860 845658. All faiths and none are most welcome.

*Parish Priest: Fr Paul Fleetwood*

Mobile: 07764 260216

**Parish Office Email:** [parish@worth.org.uk](mailto:parish@worth.org.uk)      **Parish Office Tel:** 01342 710313

**Parish Website:** [www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk](http://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk)      **Secretary:** Maria Stribbling (Hours: 9.30am-1.30pm)

Night time emergencies only: 07956 782634

**Safeguarding:** Rachel Davies (07801 696354) and Maria Stribbling (01342 710313)

**Car Share:** Jill Carter: 07836 316525

**In Touch:** If you would like anything to appear in ‘In Touch’, please email: [worthintouch@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:worthintouch@hotmail.co.uk) (by Thursday 10am)

**If you are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, or if you have any prayer intentions, please let Fr Paul know.**

### Next Sunday’s Readings: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading – Jonah 3:1-5, 10

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

### **Gospel: Mark 1:14-20 – I will make you into fishers of men**

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God.

“The time has come” he said “and the Kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent and believe the Good News”.

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men”. And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James, son of Zebedee and his brother John, they too were in their boat mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

### **Daily Readings**

Monday – 1 Samuel 15:16-23 Mark 2:18-22

Thursday – 1 Samuel 18:6-9, 19:1-7 Mark 3:7-12

Tuesday – 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Mark 2:23-28

Friday – 1 Samuel 24:3-21 Mark 3:13-19

Wednesday – 1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 Mark 3:1-6

Saturday – 2 Samuel 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 Mark 3:20-21

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